THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) There are 360 Centrally Sponsored Schemes in operation in the country. Many of them are being implemented in the North Eastern Region. These schemes are spread over 30 Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. The information is being collected from all the eight States as well as the concerned Ministries and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Implementation of Shillong Declaration

1815. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of implementation of the Shillong Declaration by the Prime Minister in January, 2000;

(b) the details of the commitments which have been fulfilled and which remain unfulfilled; and

(c) the reasons for not fulfilling the commitments?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had announced an Agenda for socio-economic development of the North Eastern Region on 22nd January, 2000 at Shillong. The Agenda covers 28 Programmes/Schemes relating to the Development of the Power Sector, Border Trade, Horticulture, Rural Infrastructure, Roads and Air-links, Medical and Health Services, Industrial Training Institutes, Information Technology, Border Fencing and Upgradation of Police Infrastructure, etc. Implementation of the programme is being closely monitored. The details are available at the Prime Minister's Office Website www.pmindia.nic.in

Privatisation of NALCO

1816. SHRI JIBON ROY:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are firm to go ahead with the privatisation of National Aluminium Company (NALCO) inspite of the controversy within the Cabinet/ruling party on the wisdom of privatising PSUs;

(b) whether his Ministry is of the opinion that roll back of the NALCO sale decision will not only hurt Government's image but also adversely affect the future prospects of the Company; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Plant visits by Qualified Interested Parties, which is a part of due diligence, have been suspended with effect from October 29, 2002. However, work is carrying on with respect to the other phases of the transaction.

(b) and (c) Investor interest may be impaired if the time line for the disinvestment process becomes uncertain. Uncertainty in this regard can similarly be detrimental for NALCO.

Disinvestment of Qutab Hotel

1817. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) wether Qutab Hotel in Delhi has been taken over by some private company after disinvestment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reserve price of the hotel and at which price the hotel was sold off?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) Following the due process of disinvestment and on the basis of competitive bidding, the entire Government shareholding in Qutab Hotel, New Delhi has been sold in favour of M/s Sushil Gupta & consortium on 20.03.2002.

(c) The reserve price for Qutab Hotel was fixed at Rs. 31.00 crores and it was sold for a price of Rs. 35,67,54,179.00.

Sale of Privatized PSUs

1818. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently privatised PSUs are being sold and resold with profit motive;